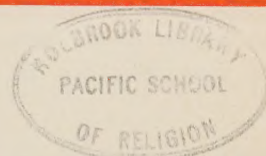


# ECUMENICAL PRESS SERVICE

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## Episcopalians Urge End of Death Penalty

(Washington) - Episcopalians throughout the United States are being asked to help create a climate of public opinion that will induce state legislatures to abolish the death penalty.

The request is contained in a 31-page study paper which examines the theological and practical arguments against capital punishment. It has been published by the National Council of the Protestant Episcopal Church for distribution to dioceses throughout the country.

The study paper insists that the death penalty violates Christian teaching, brutalizes society and fails to deter crime.

"To agitate against the evil of capital punishment," the document maintains, "is part of the mission of the Church."

It further declares that it is abhorrent to the Christian conscience to put a man to death in a spirit of vengeance, since all human life is sacred and even the most depraved criminal continues to be the object of God's redemptive love.





"It is not for man to cut short his fellows' possibility of redemption in this life," it continues.

The study paper criticises J. Edgar Hoover, director of the US Federal Bureau of Investigation, for dismissing the arguments of opponents to capital punishment on the basis that they are protected individuals who are unaware of the acts committed by criminals.

"With the aura of authority which surrounds such a public figure," it remarks, "(Mr. Hoover's) unsupported assertion is devastating against a more enlightened penology, and in the eyes of politically-minded legislators outweighs all the careful statistical studies that have been made of the question. The only compelling argument in rebuttal is an aroused and enlightened public."

The paper maintains that use of the death penalty actually stimulates the mentally ill to commit homicides for various psychological reasons, and the practice disrupts and impedes good government.

Moreover, it continues, capital punishment also costs the taxpayers more than imprisonment because of the complex expenses involved in prolonged appeals of death sentences.

Pointing out that justice is not infallible, the paper comments that innocent persons have at times been put to death, while judges, juries and governors are placed under an unbearable moral burden when such penalties are administered, and when commutation of a death sentence is under consideration.

The paper further insists that capital punishment is inconsistently administered. It contends that the death sentence is generally meted out to "the educationally underprivileged, the members of minority groups, the mentally deficient, those medically insane but legally sane".

Pointing out that criminals put to death are not always the most vicious, it contends that defendants who have enough wealth and influence to carry on lengthy appeals rarely pay the extreme penalty.

"Numerous" documented cases have shown that innocent persons have been executed for crimes which later developments proved they did not commit, the paper noted. The execution of even one innocent man is a "colossal, irremedial and final offense which must haunt the Christian's conscience".

The paper therefore called upon Christians to organize their concern on the matter, and express their convictions to influence public policies and laws.

EPS, Geneva.

#### Episcopalians Discuss Future of Latin American Church

(San José) - "Latin America is tomorrow's world, and to minister to that world which is going through great crises politically, economically and religiously, the Church must become thoroughly Latinized in every respect."

This point was made clear by the Rev. Adrian Càceres, the only Latin priest in the Missionary District of Central America, at the Primary Convocation of the Episcopal Church in Central America, held here recently.





Father Càceres said the Episcopal Church has a responsibility to reach university students, professional and working classes, and those who live and work in rural areas. "Too often," he said, "churches seek to evangelize only the very poor, but it is absolutely vital to reach the new and rapidly growing middle class."

The Rt. Rev. David E. Richards, Bishop of the district, expressed the hope that this first convention for the five-country organization would do its part in planning wisely the foundation upon which an indigenous church reflecting the history, culture, and temper of Central America will one day be built.

"Concern for Latin America figured prominently in recent national elections in the United States," he noted. "Our church will go contrary to the major concerns of the nation if she does not see with new vision and with a new sense of responsibility the task which she has to perform in the world, and particularly in this hemisphere."

Adoption of the Constitution and Canons for the District was a major item of business. The Rev. Robert Demery of Guatemala was elected clergy delegate to the General Convention in Detroit, and Leo Gordon of Nicaragua was chosen lay delegate.

The Missionary District of Central America, which was formed in 1956, embraces five countries and four distinct cultural groups. The countries are Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica. More than 30 lay delegates representing all the countries and groups, together with 21 clergy, met together for an intensive two-day study on progress and strategy for the District. The meeting was held in San José's historic Church of the Good Shepherd. EPS, Geneva.

#### US School Aid Dispute Continues

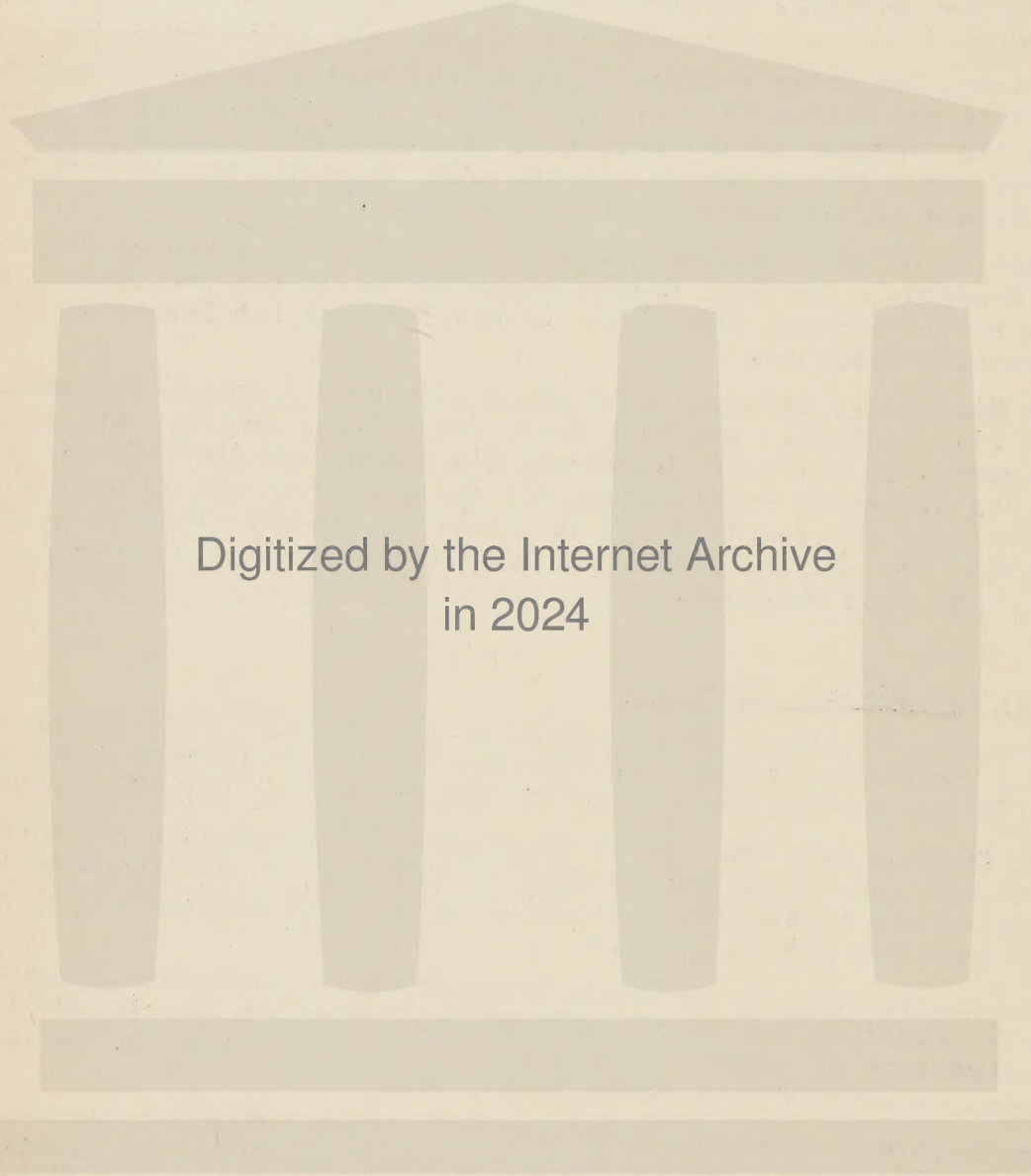
(Washington) - President John F. Kennedy has appealed for harmony among religious groups as Protestant, Catholic and Jewish leaders continue to be divided in the current controversy of Federal aid to sectarian schools.

Mr. Kennedy made the appeal in impassioned tones at a press conference as the Senate Labour and Public Welfare Subcommittee continued to hear testimony on the administration's bill authorising US\$2,298,000,000 in Federal funds for public schools.

Representatives of the Roman Catholic Church have been pressing for an amendment providing for US \$350,000,000 in long-term, low-interest loans for construction of nonprofit private schools. The request has drawn widespread opposition from Protestant leaders.

The President told the news conference that "Catholic, Protestant and Jewish clergy are entitled to state their views" on the question of whether the government should aid private schools with loans or tuition grants. However, he expressed the hope that they would not allow the controversy to endanger national unity.

"I am very hopeful that, though there may be differences of opinion on this matter of Federal aid to education," said the President, "that when the smoke is cleared, there will continue to be harmony among the various religious groups in the country."



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Mr. Kennedy noted that such harmony is especially needed "in a very difficult time in our country," since it is "an important ingredient of our national strength".

Meanwhile, a Roman Catholic spokesman, Msgr. Frederick G. Hochwalt, assured the Senate subcommittee that the church claimed no authority to compel its members to support the hierarchy's stand in the school aid controversy.

In response to a question from Representative Frank Thompson, Jr., the subcommittee's chairman, Msgr. Hochwalt said that Catholics in Congress, like anyone else, are free to vote on the matter according to their personal convictions.

However, he made it clear that the church is determined to use all legitimate political weapons to win Congressional approval of loans for parochial and other private schools.

Meanwhile, the Rev. Gerald E. Knoff, executive secretary of the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches (USA), informed the subcommittee that his organization favours Federal aid to public schools and is opposed to grants to private institutions.

While Dr. Knoff made it clear that he did not presume to speak for the 38,000,000 Protestant and Orthodox church members affiliated with the NCC, he added:

"On basis of the pronouncements the council has already made, it is safe to say that most members of the general board take the position that Federal aid to our public schools is justified and that it already has been too long delayed."

Making it clear that he was not speaking only of parochial schools, Dr. Knoff cited three dangers involved if "any substantial aid" was given to private institutions.

They follow:

"One -- The possibility of utilization by those seeking to avoid desegregated public schools in order to build segregated private schools with public funds would be present.

"Two -- Remembering past precedents, our general board would feel sure that aid would almost certainly be used as a precedent for more direct and more substantial forms of aid to parochial schools, thus diverting rather than increasing the already inadequate resources available for public education.

"Three -- This type of aid would, therefore, encourage the development and expansion of several competing systems of sectarian schools.... It is entirely possible that Congress could pass legislation whose practical results would be the shattering of the American public school system as we know it today."

The subcommittee also heard from Robert E. Van Deusen, Washington secretary of the National Lutheran Council's Division of Public Relations, who expressed the fear that Federal loans for parochial schools could lead to "a fragmentation of American culture along religious lines".





Mr. Van Deusen said further that Lutherans believed that public subsidies "force individual citizens to contribute to the financial support of a faith with whose tenets they do not agree".

US Lutherans operate a schools system in which more than 150,000 pupils are enrolled. More than 80 percent of these schools are operated by the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, which is not affiliated with the National Lutheran Council.

EPS, Geneva.

#### US Presbyterians Study Massive Unemployment

(New York) - The general secretary of the Board of Missions of the United Presbyterian Church, USA, has urged the creation of special subcommittees to deal with the human needs arising from unemployment.

The official, Dr. Kenneth G. Neigh, made the request this week in a letter addressed to executives and chairmen of national missions committees of the denomination's 34 synods and their presbyteries.

The committees, he said, should determine conditions within their bounds, determine existing facilities for job-training and job-finding, invite cooperation from other denominations and implement "specific action" programmes.

Dr. Neigh contended that the church has a "greater responsibility" than the government in dealing with the human needs reflected by unemployment figures.

"The church must express this concern for the man losing his skill through idleness and his courage through forced leisure," he said. While it cannot solve the problems of unemployment and automation alone, it "should begin to play its proper role in meeting them".

In addition to the development of programmes to meet local and area needs, the church must meet a responsibility of studying the causes of human suffering and seek adequate and equitable remedies, he continued.

The proposed subcommittees should obtain the facts on local and area unemployment by consulting with trade and industrial associations, labour leaders, public welfare agencies, chambers of commerce and similar organizations.

Cited as examples of how churches might deal with the problems of unemployment were programmes recently developed in West Virginia and Delaware.

In West Virginia, congregations near the mining area of Whitesville helped resettle miners and their families. In Wilmington, Delaware, churches in non-depressed communities helped to find work for unemployed workers from other areas.

EPS, Geneva.

#### Australian Churches Score Government Unemployment Policies

(Sydney) - The Australian Council of Churches has forwarded a resolution strongly censuring the government's policies on unemployment to the Acting Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon J. McEwen.





The resolution, adopted by 70 delegates to the Council's annual meeting, takes issue with what church leaders consider a too limited approach by the government to what they termed "the human tragedy in our midst". An estimated 71,000 persons or 1.7 per cent of the country's total work force is unemployed.

"We regard as seriously wrong the assumption which appears to lie behind actions taken by the Government, - namely that the crisis could be adequately dealt with by restrictive action directed towards particular industries, resulting in unemployment, without sufficient acceptance of responsibility for those concerned," the resolution declares.

"Australia's economic crisis arises from moral as well as political and economic causes. Because greed, selfishness and wasteful extravagance are widespread among us all, regardless of whether we are employers or employees, every citizen shares some responsibility for the present situation."

"The great evil of the depression years," it continues, "is that the public got used to the idea of an unemployment pool. It would seem that the Government is almost prepared to accept this concept again as a weapon against inflation."

The resolution calls upon the government to "seek ways of laying the burden of recovery from inflation more squarely on the whole community... rather than on a limited section as in the present instance."

"It is always the smaller people who are affected by any economic crisis," said the Rt. Rev. J. S. Moyes, Bishop of Armidale, in moving the resolution. "This motion is simply asking the Government to see the value of our people much more clearly." EPS, Geneva.

#### South Africa Church Supports Apartheid

(Pretoria) - The Synod of 350 delegates of the Dutch Reformed Church of Africa ( Hervormde Kerk) - smallest of the several Dutch Reformed bodies in South Africa - has reaffirmed the church's present policy that only whites may be admitted to its membership.

It took the action following an intense three-day debate provoked by a proposal to appoint a special commission to decide whether Article three of the church's principles, which discriminates between white and non-white was "in line with the scriptures".

The proposal was made by Professor A. S. Geyser, member of the theological faculty of the predominantly Afrikaans University of Pretoria, and one of the eleven authors of a recent book "Delayed Action" which has been critical of the government's racial policies.

The Rev. A. J. Oosthuizen chairman of the Synod, speaking from the chair, bitterly attacked the suggestion accusing Professor Geyser of arrogance and of placing the church in an invidious position. He said the professor had started the agitation at a time when both the church and the nation had their backs to the wall and were "fighting for self preservation".

The Synod agreed that the church's office holders must adhere to official church policy and never express themselves on the race issue except at Synod sessions or ministers' or presbytery meetings. At the same time, it told Professor Geyser it would give him seven days to "think over"





Article three and that if at the end of that time he did not find himself in agreement with it, he would be asked to resign. It handed the same ultimatum to Professor A. Van Selms, another one of the authors of "Delayed Action" who supported his colleague's proposal before the Synod.

In moving the motion to reaffirm Article Three, the Rev. C. L. Vandenberg stressed that the church is "morally bound to see that law and order are maintained in the country" and that the best way to do this was through the separation of the races.

Article three favours the establishment of "different churches for different nationalities", because, it says, the Christian cause is "best served that way".

The 182,000-member Hervormde Kerk was represented at the consultation last December on race relations convened by the World Council of Churches and was the only one of the eight participating churches to reject outright the consultation statement which protested against racial discrimination, and declared that "no one who believes in Jesus Christ may be excluded from any church on the grounds of his colour or his race". (See EPS No. 48, 1960)

Earlier an estimated 500 students at Pretoria University held a meeting to denounce the statement of the December consultation.

Student speakers emphasized that the policy of racial equality advocated by the consultation completely contradicts the teachings of the Dutch Reformed Church of South Africa over the past 100 years.

They said such a policy would lead to "the extinction of white civilization in South Africa" and that segregation of the races was the only solution. "We don't want to wipe out the blacks," said one student speaker, "but we must remove them entirely from the white areas and thus ensure our own future for generations. Giving the native the right to vote and other privileges as suggested (by the consultation) would be the beginning of the end...."

Earlier Professor Ben Marais of the Faculty of Theology of Pretoria University, writing in Kerkbode, official journal of the Dutch Reformed Churches in South Africa, declared that while he did not object to the policy of having distinct European and African churches, no person should be excluded from a church on the grounds of colour or race.

"The story of the tower of Babel is not the last word," he wrote. "There is also Pentecost. At Pentecost the differences were not abolished, but they were transcended. That is why we confess the communion of saints: that is the Church." EPS, Geneva.

#### New York Churches Survey Ministry to Puerto Rican Emigrants

(New York) - More than twice as many Puerto Ricans and other Spanish-speaking emigrants to New York City join Pentecostal churches than other denominations.

This is the conclusion of the most comprehensive study ever made of the Protestant ministry to the estimated 840,000 Puerto Rican and other Spanish speaking persons in New York City, released last week by the city's Protestant Council.





The inch-thick, 138-page document based on an 18-months study shows that of the newcomers surveyed 32,159 are members of Pentecostal groups whereas only 13,667 belong to other denominations. The report also showed that some 250 Protestant Spanish-speaking churches have sprung up in the city's Puerto Rican neighbourhoods and that "almost all are led by indigenous leaders and the vast majority are self-supporting".

The Rev. Leland Gartrell, executive secretary of the Council department which made the survey, pointed out that Protestant churches in Puerto Rico are generally more conservative than in the US., which accounts in part for the attraction of Pentecostal bodies to first-generation Puerto Ricans in the city. Also, he said, the Puerto Rican Pentecostal churches conduct services and other activities in Spanish, another appeal for new arrivals.

The report notes that the "united parish approach" to helping the newcomers has been slow, but a Council spokesman said the Protestant churches "feel the need to work together" in providing for the newcomers and that a council of Spanish-speaking churches "is in the process of formation" and will be affiliated with the Protestant Council.

EPS, Geneva.

### New English Bible Becomes Immediate "Best-Seller"

(London) - The demand for the New Testament portion of the New English Bible was so great that the publishers began printing nearly 500,000 more copies shortly after the initial 1,000,000 went on sale March 14.

A spokesman for England's largest book store chain, W. H. Smith & Son, said that the new translation had become an immediate best-seller and that some branch stores were sold out in 30 minutes.

The new translation, issued by Cambridge and Oxford University Presses, is the work of an interdenominational committee of Biblical scholars representing 11 major groups in the British Isles. The Old Testament and Apocrypha are expected to be completed in about six years.

The Archbishop of York, Dr. Arthur Michael Ramsey, who will be enthroned as the Archbishop of Canterbury in June, commented that the new Bible will help readers to "understand the Bible better and feel the power of its message".

But amid widespread acclaim, The London Daily Mail expressed the fear that the King James Version of 1611, "a unique and glorious possession of the English speaking peoples," may "now be discarded".

Meanwhile, The Communist London Daily Worker complained: "The beauty and power, the earthy 17th Century prose have been replaced by merely competent writing which ranges in character from that of a report in The Times (of London) to that of current advertising copy".

Use of the new translation has been at least temporarily prohibited in Anglican churches under the jurisdiction of Dr. Benjamin Pollard, Bishop of Sodor and Man, who said the contemporary English may be acceptable for private reading, "but it is not sufficiently good language for public worship, as it lacks rhythm and a sense of awe."

EPs, Geneva.





### Norwegian Woman Qualifies for Ordination

(Oslo) - The Norwegian Government has accepted and endorsed the application of a 59-year-old grandmother to serve as the country's first ordained woman pastor in the State Lutheran Church.

Mrs. Ingrid Bjerkas, who made several unsuccessful attempts to gain ordination, qualified by being approved for the pastorate at Berg and Torsken in the far northern district of Troms in the Diocese of North Halogaland.

The diocesan bishop, the Rt. Rev. Alf Wiig, had stated that he will "extend a hearty welcome to any woman pastor."

However, six other bishops, including Primate Johannes Smemo of Oslo, have issued a joint statement warning that the government's authorization of Mrs. Bjerkas' ordination has made a "conflict" now "inescapable".

The bishops declared they would not accept women pastors or cooperate in their ministries for reasons of Christian conscience, and they predicted that such ordinations "will lead to much distress and serious discord in our church".

Last year, Mrs. Bjerkas was turned down as a candidate for five vacant pastorates in the Diocese of Hamar, where Bishop Kristian Schelderup had expressed his willingness to ordain women.

"According to Norwegian law," Bishop Schelderup said, "women and men have the same right to apply for a post as pastor. Considering the present shortage of pastors in our church, there is reason to be grateful that a woman theologian has offered to serve in a post for which no man has applied. Female pastors have their natural place in our church and, in my opinion, they also will be able to add new strength to our church life."

While Norwegian law has permitted women to serve as pastors for more than 20 years provided the parish council consents, the issue has been debated throughout the Scandinavian countries for many years. The controversy has continued in Sweden and Denmark even after the first women ministers were ordained there. The State Lutheran Church Assembly in Finland has postponed action on the question. EPS, Geneva.

### Catholic Bishops of Poland To Issue New Pastoral Letter

(Warsaw) - The Roman Catholic episcopate of Poland has drafted a pastoral letter, expected to be read in all churches within the next two weeks, in the wake of a new flare-up between church and government authorities. (See EPS, No. 10)

While high church sources refused to divulge the contents of the letter, they left no doubt that the document clearly deals with church-state differences. The letter reportedly is not expected to show any abatement from the firm position of Stefan Cardinal Wyszynski, who has accused the government of attempting to turn the Polish people to atheism and bring the church into contempt and disrepute.





The letter, which is expected to be read from Polish pulpits on Palm or Easter Sundays, was drafted at a recent meeting of all of the country's Catholic bishops held at Cardinal Wyszynski's palace near Warsaw.

Wladislaw Gomulka, first secretary of the Polish United Workers' (Communist) Party, pushed the church-state issue into the forefront of the campaign leading to Polish elections April 16 in a recent speech.

Mr. Gomulka charged that the Polish hierarchy was following anti-government directives from Rome which would lead the church into "persecution and martyrdom".

While he denied that the church was being persecuted in Poland, Mr. Gomulka warned the clergy that the state demands their loyalty as citizens as well as obedience to its laws.

A short time later, Cardinal Wyszynski, speaking at a Lenten retreat, denied that the Polish hierarchy takes orders from Rome. The primate said the only directive of the Vatican was that the Polish church manage its own affairs.

Meanwhile, Vatican Radio reported that financial burdens imposed by the government are creating new difficulties for the Polish church. It said the official government newspaper, Monitor Polski, has announced that "ecclesiastical institutions are to be considered as private institutions and taxed up to 65 percent of their investments".

"This arrangement, which is retroactive and is held to apply for the past 10 years," the station said, "will make it practically impossible for the church in Poland to undertake any building projects". EPS, Geneva.

#### US Negro Baptists Plan "Miniature Peace Corps"

(New York) - A three-man commission of the largest Negro Baptist convention in the United States has left New York to establish a "miniature peace corps" in Liberia.

The delegation of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc., which has a membership of 5,000,000, hopes to acquire 5,000 acres of farmland on which young American Negroes will be encouraged to settle, become Liberian citizens if they so desire, and aid in the country's economic development.

The project, which has the support of the Liberian consulate in New York, was recommended by the convention's president, Dr. Joseph H. Jackson of Chicago, and was adopted by the body's executive board in 1959.

At the commission's departure, Dr. Jackson noted that his denomination has had missionaries in Liberia for years, "but our missionary programme must of necessity change, and we want to channel some mission money into new fields".

Meanwhile, David M. Thomas, consul general of Liberia, expressed personal satisfaction "to see this thing materialize", and indicated that any number of volunteers would be welcome. He pointed out that his country has a sparsely settled interior, with a population of 2,500,000 on its 43,000 square miles, and has fertile land for growing rubber and coffee.





Dr. Jackson said applicants will not be asked if they are Baptists. An effort will rather be made to interest US Christians who are specialists in farming and light industry to settle on the new property and aid the country economically so that the Christian witness will be more effective.

EPS, Geneva.

#### Church-State Tension Noted by East German Bishop

(Berlin) - A leading East German Protestant leader has expressed anxiety over a government policy statement which insists that children in the East Zone must be brought up "in the spirit of socialist ideology and morality".

The concern was expressed by Bishop Friedrich-Wilhelm Krummacker of the Evangelical Church of Pomerania, in a letter written last November to Walter Ulbricht, chairman of the Council of State of the German Democratic Republic. The decision to make the letter public was made at a recent meeting of the Synod of the Evangelical Church of Saxony in Halle.

Bishop Krummacker drafted the letter to clarify the Christian position to ideological trends in the East German Government after Mr. Ulbricht issued the policy statement dealing with, among other things, the question of marriage and the family and the relation of the state to religious bodies.

Expressing anxiety over the position that children must be brought up according to the tenets of socialist morality, Bishop Krummacker insisted that, whatever their duty to the state, Christians are bound to rear their families in line with the vows made at baptism.

The church leader also expressed concern over the government's position that there is no opposition between Christianity and the humanist aims of socialism, since this can only be understood, he said, in terms of the government's basic tenet that "in matters of principle concerning the theory and practice of socialism, we will not yield an inch".

Pointing out that the government is using every means possible to enforce socialist ideology on its citizens in line with this principle, Bishop Krummacker said the process may be gradual but it means that the power of the state is used exclusively to promote Marxist materialism.

Noting a huge gulf between this attitude and what Christians mean by tolerance and humanism, the bishop contended that it is a "fact that Christian citizens are constantly exposed to inner conflicts, if in their daily occupations and their political action, they have to approve a humanism and socialism which are indissolubly bound up with atheist ideology and which has the whole power of the state behind it".

Bishop Krummacker also took issue with the government's position that church members can "look after their religious concerns in church". In reply, he made it clear that "the faith of a Protestant Christian is not restricted to a church building or to a church service".

The Christian's faith is bound to find practical expression through word and deed, he contended, "and through openly confessing his beliefs in contacts with other people, especially in the family and in his work, apart from actual worship in the churches".

EPS, Geneva.



Regret Expressed on Berlin as Kirchentag Site

(Berlin) - Three Berlin theologians have expressed their regret that the 10th biennial Kirchentag - or German Evangelical Church Day Congress - will be held here July 19 - 23 as originally planned, rather than in Leipzig.

The decision was announced by Kirchentag officials after repeated negotiations with East German authorities, who had agreed to permit the congress to be held in Leipzig. The church leaders said they turned down the offer because the East German Government "gave no guarantee that all leading churchmen would be able to attend the meetings". (See EPS No.11)

However, Dr. Heinrich Vogel, Dr. Martin Fischer and Dr. Karl Kupisch sent an open letter to Kirchentag officials describing the decision as an "error of judgement".

The Berlin theologians contended that Kirchentag officials missed "the great opportunity for evangelism which would have offered itself if the Kirchentag was held in Leipzig".

The decisive point in selecting the site should not have been the assurance that all West German church leaders would be granted entry visas, the letter insisted, but whether it would have given opportunities for evangelism "not only among Christians, who are exposed to temptations and persecution, but also among atheists and Communists".

"Of course we, like you, wish that the East German Government had not insisted in principle on refusing entry visas to certain persons," it continued. "But could not the church have adopted a somewhat less rigid attitude than the state? Would that not have proved a great blessing in improving relations between church and state? Has not a great opportunity here too been missed?"

East German authorities reportedly singled out as "undesirable" Bishop Otto Dibelius of Berlin, Bishop Hanns Lilje of Hanover, West German Army Bishop Hermann Kunst, and Dr. Helmut Thielicke, rector of the University of Hamburg.

Pastor Heinrich Giesen, theological general secretary of Kirchentag, has emphasized that it was impossible to organize such an event at which no bishops were to be admitted. This, he said, is not a "question of honour," but "a question of faith".

Meanwhile, the East German press has accused Kirchentag officials of having dealt a blow "into the face of the overwhelming majority of Protestant Christians who regarded the offer for holding a congress of peace in Leipzig as a generous gift of the East German Republic".

The East German press further charged Kirchentag officials had rejected the government's offer solely "for the sake of a few NATO theologians and in order to increase tensions in and around Berlin".

West German newspapers have hailed the decision to hold the congress in Berlin as proof that the church would not stand being pressured by political forces.

EPS, Geneva.





### German Church Leader Comments on Eichmann Trial

(Darmstadt) - Every nation shares the guilt for the fate suffered by the Jews during the Nazi era, a leading German church leader has contended in an article dealing with the forthcoming trial of Adolph Eichmann.

Provost Heinrich Grüber, who is credited with saving the lives of many Jews during the period, said in Darmstadt's Stimme der Gemeinde that no country provided adequate immigration quotas for Jews seeking refuge from the Nazis.

"At that time," the provost maintained, "we knocked at the door of almost every government, or asked our friends to do so. But apart from individual cases, no help was forthcoming."

The church's leader also criticized the West German Government for allowing many of Eichmann's "colleagues" to remain in important positions. He contended that since the German church issued the Stuttgart Confession of Guilt in 1945, it has "declaimed more than it has acted".

"We can only hope that all of us, both Germans and non-Germans, will realize our co-responsibility as we follow (the Eichmann) trial," he added. EPS, Geneva.

### P. Maury To Head WCC Information Department

(Geneva) - M. Philippe Maury, general secretary of the World Student Christian Federation, has been named director of the Department of Information of the World Council of Churches.

Announcement of the appointment effective April 17, has been made at World Council headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. He succeeds the Rev. John Garrett, who headed the Department from the time of its formation in 1954 until his resignation in September, 1960.

A layman, M. Maury has headed the WSCF since 1949. Earlier he served for five years (1945-1949) as its Secretary. Following the war he was for one year on the private staff of the Minister of Information of France. He is a graduate of the University of Montpellier and the University of Paris and is the author of "Evangelism and Politics", originally written in English and now translated into French and German. He also served as editor since 1950 of The Student World, official WSCF publication.

Named to succeed M. Maury as WSCF general secretary has been the Rev. Waldo Galland, a Uruguayan, who has been the Federation's associate general secretary since 1956. An ordained minister of the Waldensian Church of Uruguay, Mr. Galland earlier served for five years as WSCF secretary with special responsibility for work in Latin America. Before moving to Geneva, he was a pastor of a church in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Succeeding Mr. Galland as associate general secretary is Miss Elisabeth Adler of Magdeburg, East Germany, who has been a staff member for several years. EPS, Geneva.



In Brief

Hilfswerk, the relief agency of the Swiss Protestant churches, has announced its plan to extend its work to under-developed countries abroad. Its activities have been chiefly confined to Europe in the past. At a special meeting of representatives of the Swiss Protestant Church Federation in Bern, it was agreed that Hilfswerk will undertake these new projects in close cooperation with the Swiss Missionary Council. Its European programme will also be maintained.

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The Rt. Rev. Charles Muhoro Kareri, 60, a Kikuyu tribesman, has been installed as the first African Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of East Africa. The new Moderator was brought up in a pagan family, but was converted as a boy when he was attracted by singing of a mission choir while tending his father's sheep and goats near a Kikuyu reserve. He succeeds the Rt. Rev. R. Macpherson who is retiring after 27 years work in Kenya.

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Two southern US universities made news last week with opposite positions on the integration of Negro students. Duke University, a Methodist institution in Durham, N.C., announced it will admit Negroes for the first time to its graduate and professional schools next September 1. Students at Emory University's College of Arts and Sciences, Atlanta, Ga., however, in an unofficial tally, voted by a narrow 470 to 443 to keep the campus segregated. The vote was in contradiction to a recent editorial in the campus newspaper which demanded the admission of Negroes "as soon as it is legally and practically feasible".

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Announcement has been made of the resignation of Dr. Bengt Hoffman as director of the Lutheran World Federation's Department of World Service, effective October 1. The 47-year-old Swedish clergymen will have completed five years as a senior official of LWF/WS which has a \$1.6 million annual programme of inter-church aid and refugee relief. Dr. Hoffman plans to do post-graduate study in the United States before taking up another post.

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The Hon. Chester Bowles, Under Secretary of State, will address the first National Consultation on US Immigration Policy called by the National Council of Churches. The Consultation, April 13-14 in Washington, D.C., will also hear other prominent government and church leaders. The programme will include four workshops dealing with the social, physical and psychological aspects of migration and the churches' role in dealing with them. A fifth will study US immigration laws and the quota system. The consultation is one of a series planned in several countries in advance of the first World Council of Churches' conference on migration, June 11-16, near Geneva, Switzerland.

EPS, Geneva.